

Andrew Jackson to Roger Brooke Taney, September 15, 1833, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO ATTORNEY GENERAL TANEY.

Washington, September 15, 1833.

The President with his respects to the atto. Genl. Mr. Taney, requests to be informed when he will have finished his review of the papers, on the subject of the U.S. Bank, and change of deposits now before him. The conversation held yesterday with Mr. McLane informed you both that I had made my conclusion that the deposits ought to be removed, and that at as early day as the necessary and proper arrangements could be made with the State Banks, and that this determination ought to be made known to the public forthwith, and that your conversation with Mr. Duane might be bottomed on this conclusion—that my opinion is, that Congress has no power over the matter and that the deposits ought to be removed and day set and promulgated after which the deposits should be made of all revenue collected, saying to the directors of U.S. Bank, that the first attempt made by them to oppress the community or State Banks, improperly, the whole of the deposits should be removed. The time is the important consideration in what the arrangements with the state banks can certainly be made—to this point I call your attention. I wish to furnish the heads of the departments with my written determination, that we may finally close the deliberations on tuesday next and put it to rest. Early in march this subject was taken up and the heads of departments called on for their opinions in writing and it has been delayed too long—it is time to bring it to a close. You will therefore pleas to return the paper with your views, amendment, or alterations which you have thought proper, to

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make, so soon as you have finally concluded upon the correct view to be taken on it, with the other papers.

If Mr. Duane will not agree to carry into effect these conclusions and remain, the sooner he withdraws the better—it is known what my determination is, and if he cannot act with me, on that determination, he ought to withdraw.

P.S. Will you please intimate to me your opinion of the proper time in which the arrangements can be made with the State Banks, which should be named.